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He therefore requested that the recent transfer of the c rimi-nal jurisdiction of the Poonjar village might be cancelled and the *status quo* restored. Rubber plantations adjacen t to Peermade might be included within the Peermade M gis-trate's jurisdiction, if the Government considered that co urse specially necessary in the interests of the Planters. The Member concluded by saying that there would be no roo n for such complaints if, in the matter of altering the territ orial jurisdiction of Tahsildars, Magistrates, Munsiffs and Sub-Registrars, the wishes and convenience of the peop le were consulted by the Government before passing final orders.

Dewan's reply.—Orders are under issue givi ng the criminal jurisdiction over the Poonjar village to t ne Kan-jirapalli Magistrate, which should be quite conv enient to the people.

(3). *Civil Justice.*

30. ***Applications for the establishment of new Munsiffs' Courts or the shifting of some of the existing Courts.***

Mr. Krishnan Easwaran (Member, Ned umangad Taluk) said that the number of cases filed in the three Munsiffs' Courts of Trivandrum, Attingal and Neyyatin-kara, by the inhabitants of Nedumangad, was m ore than sufficient to justify the establishment of a Court at Nedumangad. He stated that the recent t ransfer of the jurisdiction of certain *pakuthies* of the taluk ha ted in greater inconvenience to the people than bef The distances from most of the *pakuthies* of t luk to the three Munsiffs' Courts above named, with hose jurisdiction they were placed, were from 20 to 30 m nd, with the exception of Kulathummel and Vaman puram, all the other *pakuthies* suffered great incon venience. The distance of Nedumangad from all the included *pakuthies* was only 12 miles and below. He requested that, in view of the above circumstances, a Munsiff's Court might be established at Nedumangad.

Mr. K. Narayana Pillai (Member, Aml alapuzha Taluk) said that, till the year 1060, the taluk had wo Munsiffs' Courts—a permanent Court at Am palapuzha and an additional Court at Alleppey. In tha year, the Court at Ambalapuzha was removed to Shertall i and the ten *pakuthies* which had been within the jurisdic on of the Ambalapuzha Court were transferred to the Alleppey Court. He pleaded for the establishment of a Munsiff's Court at Ambalapuzha on the ground of the i portance of the place, which had all the other public offic except a Munsiff's Court, and he suggested that the Addit nal Mun-siff's Court at Alleppey might be temporarily tra sferred to

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Ambalapuzha, pending the establishment of a permanent Munsiff's Court, as that would cause no additional expenditure to the Government.

Revd. P. J. Joshua, B A. (Member, Kunnathur Taluk) thanked the Government for opening a dispensary at Adoor, in response to the request made at the previous Assembly, and said that, being encouraged by the solicitude of the Government, he ventured to come forward with a prayer for the establishment of a Munsiff's Court, which was one of equal urgency and importance. He said that Mavelikara was a most inconvenient centre for the Kunnathur population and illustrated the fact by reference to a sketch-map. He pointed out that, within a radius of 5 miles from Mavelikara, there were 5 Munsiffs' Courts, *viz.*, those at Chengannur, Thiruvalla, Mavelikara, Haripad and Krishnapuram, while the whole of the Kunnathur taluk lay outside that circle. He said that the people of the taluk had to travel from 16 to 32 miles to go to Mavelikara. He stated that his request was not an unreasonable one, considering the area and population of the taluk. But, if the Government could not find their way to grant a separate Court at Adoor, he prayed that the Mavelikara Court might be shifted to Noornad, which formed the geographical centre for the two taluks and was equally convenient to the people of both the taluks. If even this request could not be granted, the Member requested that the old order of things might be restored and the Kunnathur taluk brought under the jurisdiction of the Kottarakara Munsiff's Court, which was more easily accessible to the people of Kunnathur than Mavelikara.

Mr. Kanakku Athichan Athichan (Member, Changanacherry Taluk) said that the taluk had a Munsiff's Court till 1080, when that Court was shifted to Ambalapuzha, the civil jurisdiction of the taluk being then divided between Kottayam, Thiruvalla and Alleppey. In the recent reorganisation of the Judicial Department, the 6 *pakuthies* of the taluk, which were under the jurisdiction of the Alleppey Court, were transferred to Thiruvalla. This change was felt by the people of the taluk as most inconvenient, as Thiruvalla could not be reached without difficulty, either by land or by water, during the monsoon. The taluk had at present all other public offices, and a Munsiff's Court was a desideratum. He therefore requested that a new Court might be established at Changanacherry, or one of the Courts at Kottayam or Thiruvalla transferred there. If that could not be done, the 6 *pakuthies* of the taluk might at least be retransferred to Alleppey, so that the

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inconvenience might be minimised. He added that the old Taluk Cutcherry building at Changanacherry was available for holding the new Court, if sanctioned, and that therefore no expenditure was necessary on that account.

Mr. P. Krishna Pillai (Member, Eraniel Taluk) said that the Additional Munsiff's Court established at Thackallai was of no use to the people of Eraniel, because they experienced great difficulty in securing the services of good Vakils, who had often to attend both the Courts at the same time. To the people on the borders of the Eraniel taluk, Thackallai was 19 miles distant. Besides, three-fourths of the number of cases filed at Thackallai were from Eraniel, as the taluk was, in point of population, industry and commerce, much more important that Kalkulam. He therefore requested that the Additional Munsiff's Court at Thackallai might be shifted to Eraniel or Colachel.

Mr. Kanakku Chempakaraman Padmanabhan (Member, Karunagapalli Taluk) represented that the transfer of the civil jurisdiction of certain *pakuthies* of the taluk from Quilon to Krishnapurom was a hardship to the people, as Krishnapurom was more distant than Quilon. He stated that it would be more convenient to the people if the Additional Munsiff's Court at Krishnapurom were transferred to Karunagapalli, which was in the centre of the taluk, or to Chavara, an important place in the south of the taluk, or to Sastancotta about 8 miles from Chavara, Thevalakara, Ponmana, Western Kallada, Kunnathur, Chooranad, etc.

Mr. Vareethu Eippa (Member, Thodupuzha Taluk) said that the recent transfer of the civil jurisdiction of the taluk from Muvattupuzha to Meenachil had resulted in great inconvenience to the people, as the latter place was more distant and less accessible on account of the road running through the hills. Some of the *pakuthies* were about 25 miles distant from Meenachil. If an account were taken of the number of cases filed in the Muvatupuzha Court by the Thodupuzha inhabitants, that would justify the opening of an additional Court in Thodupuzha, but if that request could not be granted, the Member prayed that a Magistrate-Munsiff might be appointed for the taluk, as in Shencotta. He added that, if this prayer could not also be allowed, the civil jurisdiction of the taluk might at least be retransferred to Muvattupuzha.

Dewan's reply.—The representations made by the several Members will be considered when the general question of the revision of the Munsiffs' Courts is next taken up.

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